

ACT/037040

May 26, 1982

Memo to File:

RE: Atlas Minerals Meeting
May 11, 1982

On May 11, 1982, a meeting was held at the Division with representatives of Atlas Minerals to discuss certain recent developments. Jim Smith, Tom Portle, Sally Kefer, Vicki Ketvirtis, Susan Linner and Tom Tetting were present, as were Richard Bludag, Richard Dye and James Holtcamp from Atlas.

Primarily, the upcoming contract changes regarding Atlas' operations were discussed. These hinged around the possibility of the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining's continued acceptance of "personal guarantees," i.e., self-bonding and also the revegetation proposal submitted by Atlas in 1981. During the course of the three and one half hour meeting, certain items were resolved.

1. Atlas Minerals' attorney James Holtcamp will submit to the Division prior to the May Board Hearing a list of criteria for determining financial stability, specifically geared to Atlas' situation.
2. Because the implementation of the self-bonding concept is partially contingent upon Atlas' good faith and Reclamation Contract commitments, the design of a specific approach to revegetation of waste rock piles will be submitted to the Division to replace the existing approved test plot plans. This will entail the use of a consultant to compile an existing inventory of revegetation information and will be submitted during the summer of 1982.
3. Atlas will choose an existing minesite upon which to perform revegetation efforts on a full scale.
4. Contouring of waste rock piles, the importation of an alternate source type of rock material and the revegetation of these waste rock slopes by the fall of 1982 were ideas also agreed upon.
5. A commitment to implementing the concerns addressed in #'s 2, 3 and 4 will be submitted by the May Board Hearing. However, a detailed design will follow in the summer, prior to the necessity of initiating a fall reseeding program.

The negotiation and shifting stance by the Division was viewed as a necessary compromise to see Atlas Minerals begin some form of actual reclamation.

MEMO TO FILE
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Page 2

Other areas discussed at the meeting included the clean-up of trash in a canyon on the Far west Mine site as well as the addition of that area to the mine plan. The sampling parameters and oil skimmers suggested for installation on Atlas' wash pads were other areas debated. Further data will be exchanged with the Division and the State Health Department. Prior to installation of additional skimmers at the Pandora and Velvet mines, sampling will continue and discharges will be contained. The sampling will consist of a longer term or averaging of discharge measurements. A two-year continued suspension order will be issued for the Far west when these items have been addressed.

The reclamation or stabilization of eroding waste rock piles at the Ivy Mine was also given consideration at the meeting. Atlas will regrade the piles and substantiate their improvements on new surface maps. After this has been reviewed, an additional two year suspension should be issued.

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TNT/btd